

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



OIC/7-ICTM//2010/SOM/REP/FINAL

Original: English

**REPORT OF
THE MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS
PREPARATORY TO THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF TOURISM MINISTERS**

TEHRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

22-23 ZULHIJJA 1431H

28-29 NOVEMBER 2010

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THE MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS
PREPARATORY TO THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE
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Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
22-23 Zulhijja, 1431H
28-29 November, 2010

1. The Meeting of the Senior Officials preparatory to the Seventh Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers was held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, on 22-23 Zulhijja 1431H (28-29 November 2010).
2. Senior Officials from 22 OIC Member States, and representatives of eight OIC Institutions, namely: COMCEC Coordination Office, IRCICA, SESRIC, ICDT, IUT, ISESCO, IDB and ICCI attended the Meeting. List of participants is attached as Annex-I.
3. Following rendition of the Iranian National Anthem and recitation of verses from the Holy Qur'an, the Head of the Syrian delegation Eng. Bassam Barsik, Director of Tourism Development and Marketing Administration of the Syrian Ministry of Tourism welcomed all delegations and expressed his country's appreciation to OIC Member States for the support and cooperation given to Syrian Arab Republic during its chairmanship of the 6th ICTM.

Election of the Bureau

4. The Meeting unanimously elected the following members of the Bureau:
 - Chairman: Islamic Republic of Iran
 - Vice Chairman: People's Republic of Algeria
 - Vice Chairman: Republic of Senegal
 - Vice Chairman: State of Palestine
 - Rapporteur: Syrian Arab Republic

Adoption of Agenda and Work Programme

5. The Meeting adopted its Agenda and Work Programme as contained in Annex II.

Opening Statements

6. Ambassador Hameed A. Opeloyeru, Assistant Secretary General of the OIC for Economic Affairs addressed the Meeting on behalf of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC and congratulated both the outgoing and incoming chairmen of the 6th and 7th ICTM. He stated that the OIC Ten Year Program of Action emphasized the acceleration of tourism activities as a very vital component

of intra-OIC trade, thereby urging the Meeting to give prominence to infrastructure development, cross-border projects, private-public partnership and regional and international cooperation, in order to achieve the objectives of economic development in OIC countries.

7. In his opening statement the Chairman of the SOM, in the person of Mr. Mahmoud Barimani, Director-General of the Department of International Economic Affairs and Specialized Agencies of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs pledged the continued support of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the activities, programmes and projects aimed at promoting tourism in OIC Member States.

Progress Report on Implementation of OIC Framework on Tourism

8. The General Secretariat presented the Progress Report, which was adopted by the Second Coordination Committee Meeting on Tourism. The presentation dwelled on the various activities accomplished under the Short Term Plan and Program, including recent bilateral activities and regional projects. It also highlighted various activities of the OIC institutions towards the implementation of the Framework for Development and Cooperation in the Domain of Tourism among OIC Member States.

The recommendations in the presentations included increased public awareness about existing tourist resources in OIC countries, establishment more regional and bilateral tourism projects and creation of an annual “OIC City of Tourism” award in recognition of exceptional contributions to the improvement of tourism in OIC Member States.

Report of the Chairman of 6th ICTM

9. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in its capacity as the Chairman of the 6th Session of the ICTM, presented the report on the activities and developments that have taken place since the 6th Session, which was held in Damascus, Syria on 29 June – 2 July 2008, and highlighted the role of Coordination Committee on Tourism, including adoption of Short Term Plan of Programme and all activities in the field of tourism developed by the Member States and OIC institutions.

Reports by Focal Points

10. Representatives of Indonesia, Malaysia and Iran presented reports on various activities, which were carried out in their respective capacities as focal points on Tourism Facilitation; Marketing; and Research and Training. The Meeting was informed of the need for Member States to submit necessary inputs and data to facilitate the mandate of the Focal Points. Reports of the Focal Points attached as Annex III.

Report of the First Conference on Health Tourism in OIC Member States

11. The President of Iranian Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Mines, Dr. Mohammad Nahavandian presented a Report on the First Conference on Health Tourism in OIC Member States, held in Mashhad, Iran, on 2-4 November 2010. He informed that the Conference resolved to mobilize the available potentials in OIC

countries for the promotion of health tourism and building capacity for the health industry, while recommending the proposal of the Conference for the creation of Islamic Health Tourism Association for the consideration of the Meeting.

Reports by OIC Institutions

12. The Meeting considered the reports presented by the following OIC Institutions: IRCICA, SESRIC, ICDT, ISESCO, IDB and ICCI on their various contributions to the implementation of the OIC Framework document on tourism. The presentations by these Institutions are attached as Annex IV.

Consideration of the Draft Agenda and Draft Work Programme

13. The Meeting discussed and recommended the attached Draft Agenda and Draft Work Programme for the consideration of the Ministerial Session.

Consideration of the Draft Resolutions and Draft Tehran Declaration

14. The Meeting also recommended the attached Draft Resolutions and Draft Tehran Declaration for the consideration of the Ministerial Session.

Venue of 8th ICTM

15. The Meeting welcomed the offer by the Government of the Sudan to host the 8th Session of ICTM in 2012 and urged Member States to actively participate in the Session.

Vote of Thanks

16. The Meeting expressed appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the excellent arrangements made for the successful hosting of the Meeting. The delegates also expressed their appreciation to the Chairman of SOM for his leadership and wisdom, which facilitated the smooth conduct of the Meeting. Similarly, the Meeting thanked the OIC Secretary General and members of the OIC General Secretariat and Institutions for their invaluable contributions and support for the Meeting.

Tehran, 29 November 2010.